What is Claimed:

1. One or more data members stored together as a data object, comprising:

a plurality of sequentially stored bytes; and

at least one data member represented within said plurality of sequentially stored bytes, wherein said at least one data member is associated with a data type; and

at least one type byte within said plurality of sequentially stored bytes that is used to identify the data type of said at least one data member, wherein the at least one type byte is located substantially proximally to the at least one data member.

2. The one or more data members of claim 1, wherein the at least one data member is stored in a record format, and wherein the record format defines a predictable location for said at least one data member in relation to the at least one type byte.

3. The one or more data members of claim 1, further comprising at least one length byte of said plurality of sequentially stored bytes that is used to identify a length of the at least one data member.

4. The one or more data members of claim 1, wherein said at least one data member indicates a location for data associated with the data object, and said location is associated with a location type, and at least one location byte of said plurality of sequentially stored bytes is used to identify the location type.

5. The one or more data members of claim 1, wherein the at least one type byte is the first byte of the plurality of sequentially stored bytes, and indicates a beginning of the data object.

6. The one or more data members of claim 5, wherein the at least one type byte indicates a type of data object.

7. The one or more data members of claim 1, wherein the data type is selected from a group comprising a primitive data type excluding large objects ("LOBs"), a large object ("LOB") data type, a file stream ("FS") data type, and a collection element data type.

8. The one or more data members of claim 7, wherein if said at least one data member is associated with a primitive data type excluding LOBs, then said at least one data member is stored in a record format, wherein the record format defines a predictable location for said at least one data member in relation to the at least one type byte.

9. The one or more data members of claim 1, wherein the at least one type byte indicates that said at least one data member is the only member or members of the data object.

10. The one or more data members of claim 1, further comprising at least one collection start byte within said plurality of sequentially stored bytes, wherein the at least one collection start byte is used to indicate the beginning of a series of related data members stored substantially proximally to said at least one collection start byte.

11. The one or more data members of claim 1, further comprising at least one terminator byte within said plurality of sequentially stored bytes, wherein the at least one terminator byte is used to indicate the end of a series data members.

12. The one or more data members of claim 1, further comprising at least one byte within said plurality of sequentially stored bytes that is associated with a first data member that is part of a collection of data members, wherein said at least one byte provides information about a second data member that is part of the collection of data members.

13. The one or more data members of claim 1, further comprising at least one binary tree ("btree") number stored substantially proximally to said at least one data member.

14. A method for storing or transmitting data objects made up of at least one data member, comprising:

representing at least one data member within in a plurality of sequentially stored bytes, wherein the at least one data member is associated with a data type; and

dedicating at least one byte within said plurality of sequentially stored bytes to identify type information for the at least one data member, wherein said at least one byte is located substantially proximally to said at least one data member.

15. The method of claim 14, wherein representing the at least one data member is done in a record format, and wherein the record format defines a predictable location for said at least one data member in relation to the at least one type byte.

16. The method of claim 14, further comprising dedicating at least one byte of said plurality of sequentially stored bytes to identify a length of the at least one data member.

17. The method of claim 14, wherein said at least one data member indicates a location for data associated with the data object, and said location is associated with a location type, and at least one location byte of said plurality of sequentially stored bytes is used to identify the location type.

18. The method of claim 14, wherein the at least one byte is the first byte of the plurality of sequentially stored bytes, and indicates a beginning of the data object.

19. The method of claim 14, wherein the at least one type byte indicates a type of data object.

20. The method of claim 14, wherein the data type is selected from a group comprising a primitive data type excluding large objects ("LOBs"), a large object ("LOB") data type, a file stream ("FS") data type, and a collection element data type.

21. The method of claim 20, wherein if said at least one data member is associated with a primitive data type excluding LOBs, then said at least one data member is stored in a record format, wherein the record format defines a predictable location for said at least one data member in relation to the at least one type byte.

22. The method of claim 14, wherein the at least one type byte indicates that said at least one data member is the only member or members of the data object.

23. The method of claim 14, further comprising dedicating at least one byte within said plurality of sequentially stored bytes to marking the start of a series of related data members stored substantially proximally to said at least one collection start byte.

24. The method of claim 14, further comprising at least one terminator byte within said plurality of sequentially stored bytes, wherein the at least one terminator byte is used to indicate the end of a series data members.

25. The method of claim 14, further comprising dedicating at least one byte within said plurality of sequentially stored bytes to providing information about a second data member that is part of the collection of data members, wherein said at least one byte is associated with a first data member that is part of a collection of data members.

26. A computer readable medium containing instructions for performing the method of claim 14.

27. A modulated data signal containing instructions for performing the method of claim 14.

28. A method for storing or transmitting a data object made of one or more data members, comprising:

dividing a plurality of sequentially located bytes into at least one header section and at least one payload section, wherein said at least one header section and said at least one payload section are located proximally to each other; and

representing at least one data member in the payload section, wherein said at least one data member is associated with a data type; and

representing the data type in the header section; and

placing the at least one data member in the payload section in a record format, wherein the record format defines a predictable location for said at least one data member in relation to any other members in the payload section.

29. The method of claim 28, wherein the at least one data member is associated with a primitive data type.

30. The method of claim 28, further comprising representing a payload length in the header section.

31. The method of claim 28, further comprising:

further dividing the plurality of sequentially located bytes into at least one second header section and at least one second payload section, wherein said at least one second header section and

said at least one second payload section are located proximally to each other; and

representing location information for the at least one second data member in the at least one second payload section, wherein the location information specifies a location of a location type; and

identifying the location type in the second header section.

32. The method of claim 31, further comprising placing a LOB type data member in the at least one second payload section.

33. The method of claim 31, further comprising placing a FS type data member in the at least one second payload section.

34. The method of claim 31, further comprising representing a payload length in the at least one second header section.

35. The method of claim 28, further comprising:

further dividing the plurality of sequentially located bytes into at least one second header section; and

marking with said at least one second header section the start of a collection of related data members located substantially proximally to said at least one second header section.

36. The method of claim 35, further comprising indicating in said at least one second header section whether the collection of related data members is ordered or unordered.

37. The method of claim 28, further comprising:

further dividing the plurality of sequentially located bytes into at least one second header section; and

marking with said at least one second header section the end of the data object.